

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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21/12

ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-06 ARA-06 EA-06 EUR-12 NEA-10

CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1994

INFO USMISXON USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LIMA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE PRIORITY

USLO PEKING PRIORITY

AMCONSUL HONG KONG PRIORITY

CINCPAC

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CORRECTED COPY (CORRECT GARBLED PARAGRAPH 3.)

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, KS, UN

SUBJECT: ROK REACTION TO UNSC VOTE ON KOREAN MEMBERSHIP

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REF: STATE 184303 (NOTAL)

1. ALL PAPERS GAVE FRONT-PAGE TOP TREATMENT TO UNSC DECISION NOT TO CONSIDER ROK APPLICATION AND TO US DECISION TO VETO VIETNAM APPLICATIONS FOR UN MEMBERSHIP. IN INITIAL REACTION HANGUK ILBO ATTRIBUTED DEFEAT TO DECLINING US INFLUENCE IN UN, CHANGING PATTERN OF UN MEMBERSHIP AND OVER-OPTIMISM OF ROKG ABOUT POSSIBILITY OF GETTING NEEDED NINE VOTES. HANGUK ILBO EDITORIAL FOLLOWED SAME THEME, DENOUNCING UNSC IRRESPONSIBILITY BUT ALSO DEPLORING ROK UN STRATEGY. CHOSON ILBO COMMENTED THAT VOTE WAS DISTURBING BECAUSE OF DEFICIENCIES IT REVEALED IN ROK EVALUATION OF POSSIBILITIES FOR SUCCESS.

2. HANGUK ILBO AND CHOSON ILBO CARRIED STATEMENT BY NDP SPOKESMAN HAN PYONG-CHAE BLAMING ROKG FOR FAILURE AND URGING A STABLE DIPLOMATIC POLICY, ESPECIALLY TOWARD THE UN.

3. FONOFF REACTION WAS MIXED. POSSIBILITY OF ADVERSE EFFECT ON NAC IN LIMA WAS FORESEEN (REFTEL) XYT FONOFF OFFICIALS HAVE TOLD US THAT CONCERN AT ALL LEVELS IN MINISTRY ABOUT EFFECT IN LIMA WAS INCREASED BY VOTE RESULTS. IF THE EFFECT CARRIES OVER TO LIMA FONOFF OFFICIALS ANTICIPATE INCREASED CRITICISM OF AND PRESSURE ON FONOFF OVER SHORT TERM. LONG TERM FONOFF ASSESSMENT OF EFFECTS OF MEMBERSHIP EFFORT ARE MORE OPTIMISTIC. FONOFF OFFICIALS SEE STRATEGY OF USING US VETO TO HOLD TWO VIETNAMESE MEMBERSHIPS HOSTAGE FOR ROK MEMBERSHIP AS PROVIDING LEVERAGE WHICH WILL ULTIMATELY PRODUCE FRICITION IN COMMUNIST COMMUNITY AND PROVIDE BEST AVAILABLE OPPORTUNITY FOR ROK UN MEMBERSHIP. ROKG GRATITUDE FOR US SUPPORT IS CLEAR IN FONOFF EXPRESSIONS OF APPRECIATION TO EMBOFFS.

4. COMMENT: SOPTLIGHT HAS NOW SHIFTED TO LIMA. WHATEVER THE OUTCOME THERE, HOWEVER, ROKG IS NOW PLAYING FOR LONG-TERM GAINS IN THE UN AND SEES CONTINUED US SUPPORT AS INDISPENSIBLE IN THIS EFFORT.

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